

REMARKS

The Office Action of July 14, 2005 has been received and its contents carefully considered.

The present Amendment replaces the original claims with new claims 13-22. All of the new claims read on the elected species. The new claims have been drafted in conformity to U.S. claim-drafting practice, and it is respectfully submitted that they are suitably definite under the second paragraph of 35 USC 112. The rejection for indefiniteness in sections 3 and 4 of the Office Action should therefore be withdrawn.

Section 5 of the Office Action rejects claims 1 and 2 for anticipation by Ueno. These claims have now been cancelled, as noted above, but it is respectfully submitted that new independent claim 13 is patentable over the reference.

Claim 13 provides that a “gated inverter” comprises various transistors along with “an inverter connected between the control electrodes of the first and second current control transistors.” The inverter I 111 (for example) shown in Figure 1-2 of the present application’s drawings is such an inverter, and it will be appreciated that the inverter I 111 causes the transistors T111-1 and T113-1 to turn on or off at the same time.

In the arrangement shown in Ueno’s Figure 1, the gates of transistors M5 and M6 receive the same signal. Similarly, the gates of Ueno’s transistors M7 and M8 receive the same signal. The reference does not disclose an inverter between the gates, and there is no apparent reason why an ordinarily skilled person would have had an incentive to modify Ueno’s arrangement by inserting an inverter between the gates. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the invention defined by claim 13 is patentable over Ueno.

Since the remaining claims depend from claim 13 and recite additional limitations to further define the invention, they are patentable along with claim 13 and need not be further discussed.

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is therefore respectfully requested.

It is noted that an Information Disclosure Statement will be filed shortly.

Respectfully submitted,



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